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SUBJECT

: Pros and Cons of Depositing 43 Core Interest Areas with Congress

- PRO Exposes Select Committees to those areas of primary concern to the continued effective operation of CIA.
- PRO Enables CIA to establish "for the record" the essentiality of certain of its operations and methods.
- PRO May forestall unintended provisions in any forthcoming legislation.
- PRO Provides Committees with a documented record of CIA concerns at a critical time of transition of leadership.
- CON The list is parochial in the sense that it reflects only CIA concerns and does not speak for the whole Community.
- CON It could open the door for legislative initiatives which would be restrictive to CIA in the future.
- CON It could lead to unanticipated limitations on CIA. "If it is so essential, why wasn't it on your list?"
- CON The 43 items were compiled for internal use only and as such reflect rationale which may not always be acceptable to people outside of the Community. This is especially true regarding issues to which Congress is apt to be most sensitive; i.e., those dealing with Constitutional rights.

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